

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 21-58 are pending in this application.

Rejection of the Claims under 35 USC § 101

The Patent Office rejected claims 1-20 under 35 USC § 101 as a double patenting rejection, claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,731,148, a related application. However, Applicants request that claims 1-20 be canceled without prejudice, so the rejection is moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully suggests that claims 21-58 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 11-1-04 (MF)

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